MID-WEEK SERVICE

Mid-week services will start on 21st August and continue on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 1.30pm in the Sanctuary. They will consist of hymns, prayers, readings and quiet spaces.

All are welcome!

BUILDINGS UPDATE

Summerhill Church and Manse were sold to the Filipino Congregation which has been worshipping there for some time.

The General Trustees are supporting the congregation in finding the best solution for the disposal of the Northfield church building; the manse will be restored through an insurance claim before being sold.

Discussions and consultation continue to identify what the congregation sees as their priorities for the development and refurbishment of Aberdeen North's buildings on Greenfern Road.

CHAT'N'SNACK

It has been great to see so many people dropping in on a Wednesday, chatting, snacking, and making new friends!

We re-open after our summer break on **Wednesday 14 August** so hope to see



friends old and new.
If you'd be interested in helping at Snack'n'Chat then please contact Rose roseclayton_mbe
@hotmail.com

CHURCH INFORMATION

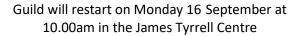
Communion is celebrated on the last Sunday of each month. Alcohol-free wine and gluten-free bread served at all communions.

Wee Jars are available for people to fill with 5p & 20p coins and return to Church, for the Refurbishment Fund. Thanks to all those who have already been busy filling up those wee jars!

The **congregation** is **asked to stand** as the Bible is carried in to the Sanctuary at the beginning of Sunday worship and carried out again at the end of the service following the benediction.

ABERDEEN NORTH GUILD

Theme - Sure Foundations





A varied programme has been arranged for Session 2024-2025 with speakers, quizzes, hints and tips etc.

Please come along to any/all meetings—a very warm welcome awaits everyone!

COFFEE POT COMMUNITY CAFÉ

The Coffee Pot is taking a well-deserved break for the school holidays.

This community cafe has been a vibrant gathering spot, offering warm beverages, delicious pastries, and a cozy atmosphere for friends old and new to come together.

Thank you for your continued support over these past 10 weeks since we launched this new initiative at Aberdeen North. We hope you have a have a fantastic summer, and we can't wait to welcome you back soon!

WORSHIP WITH MUSIC

Fiona is inviting everyone to name some hymns that they love - even if we already do sing some of your favourites, please do still name them

A sheet will be available on each table, as well as one at the back of the church, for people to name some of their favourites. You may think you haven't heard something for a while, or maybe you came across something new which you just love. Whatever it is, write it down and we will try to incorporate as many suggestions as possible into our services.

Please do take time to contribute the names of hymn you love and have your say! Thanks!



Dear Friends

Can you believe that we are halfway through the year already? 2024 seems to be going in a blink of an eye. A lot has been happening and we are certainly blessed to have Jay working with us and within the community, drawing together the threads of church and the community which we are part of.

As we enter into the summer season, we are going to shift our focus for the services and explore the stories and journeys of some of our lesser known bible characters, weaving them into our own experiences and recognising that God did not stop working at the end of Revelation. So look forward to some interesting testimonies from members of our own congregation as well as some stories of the heroes of faith over the months of July and August.



We love to worship with music, so I am going to have a sheet available on each table, as well as one at the back of the church, and I invite you to name some hymns that you love — we may already sing some of your favourites, though please still name them. Or you may think you haven't heard something for a while, or maybe you came across something new which you just love. Whatever it is, write it down and we will try to incorporate as many as possible into our services.

Lots of our activities are taking a break over the summer, and sometimes it is good to just slow the pace and take a bit of a break to refresh and recuperate for the next season. But God doesn't stop working, He does not need rest in the way that we do, so wherever you are take opportunities to seek His glory in creation, take opportunities to worship Him and spread His love and grace with all whom you meet.

I wish you every blessing over this summer season.

Fiona



Making Connections and Building Relationships

In January I took up the role as Church and Community Worker at Aberdeen North, following a spell with a PCUSA (Presbyterian Church of USA) congregation in New York. I don't imagine many people can say they've swapped Manhattan to work in Mastrick, Northfield, and Summerhill!

But I have the most wonderful sense that I'm exactly where I'm supposed to be and that it was all in God's timing.



It's hard to know where these past 6 months have gone though. It doesn't seem any time since my first meeting with Fiona to discuss plans for what the role at Aberdeen North might look like. It's only looking back that I realise just how much we've been able to achieve together in such a short space of time.

Added to my weekly involvement at the Woodend Tesco Youth Hub and the Flourish Lunchtime group at Northfield Academy, my particular highlights so far include welcoming over 200 pupils for a walk through of the Easter Journey in March, and the development of our Community Cafe.

The Easter Journey was a joint project with our friends at Northfield United Free Church, and looking forward we are keen to build on that partnership by delivering an Early Intervention Mentoring Project for local school pupils. This will see ourselves, Northfield UF, and Sheddocksley Baptist all working together.

In June we were also awarded a grant of £4500 from the Trades Widow Fund to add to the provision of our community cafe, and we're excited about what that will allow us to do. Our hope, in time, is to add a community food pantry helping provide dignified access to good quality food for those experiencing food poverty.

As I write this, I'm still recovering from taking part in the Kiltwalk. Together with Ian Anderson, I took on the Mighty Stride, an 18 mile walk from Duthie Park to Banchory to raise funds for our young people to attend the ReFuel Festival later in the summer.

The journey so far has been nothing short of busy, yet profoundly rewarding. I look forward to the different ways we as a congregation can reach out and continue to serve our local community in the weeks and months ahead, making Aberdeen North a real place of hope and support.

Jay Thomas



GIFT AID UPDATE

Gift Aid is a government scheme which allows our congregation, as a registered charity, to claim 25p from HMRC for every £1 donated by someone who has made a Gift Aid declaration, which gives the congregation permission to claim on all their offerings and donations.

The donor must be a UK tax payer and have paid as much or more income tax and/or capital gains tax in the tax year than will be reclaimed through Gift Aid on their donations.

If you have previously signed a Gift Aid declaration form and your tax position has changed, please contact Peter Ewen, Gift Aid Co-ordinator.

Gift Aid declaration forms are available at the Church door, or by contacting your Elder, or Peter Ewen.

Thanks to all members who already give their offerings by standing order. If you would like to do this instead of using the weekly envelopes, please pick up a form at Church, or speak to your elder, or leave a note for the Treasurer.

Paying by standing order is very convenient, and easy to set up.

Thanks!

FLOWERS IN CHURCH

Organising the buying, arrangement and distribution of flowers for Sunday worship is almost always done by Ann and Ron Ewing, with regular help from Moira Robertson, and the beautiful displays are much appreciated by those attending Sunday worship and those in the wider congregation who receive flowers.

Ann & Ron would like to involve more people in organising the flowers, so if you would like to help, or to find out about what is involved, please speak to Ann or Ron. Thanks!

MINISTRY TEAM

Contact the Church Office on Aberdeen 694121

Minister Rev Fiona Lister, 07905 770259 FLister@churchofscotland.org.uk

Church & Community

Development Worker Jay Thomas, 07526 465101 <u>ithomas@churchofscotland.org.uk</u>

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Treasurer Elaine Mitchell <u>antreasurer@aol.com</u>

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www.aberdeennorthchurch.co.uk

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